REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendment(s) is respectfully requested.

The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple dependency and to place them in better condition for U.S. patent practice.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning the subject application, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated April 16, 2002

Marked-up Claims 1, 3-21, 24, 25 and 29-32

1. (Amended) Purified natural or synthetic polypeptide[, characterized by the fact that it responds to the] comprising amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 1:

3. (Amended) Polypeptide according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein it is purified from the skin of mammals.

Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated April 16, 2002

Marked-up Claims 1, 3-21, 24, 25 and 29-32

4. (Amended) Polypeptide according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein it is purified from human skin.

5. (Amended) Polypeptide according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein it is purified from the human epidermis.

6. (Amended) Natural or synthetic polypeptide whose sequence in part [consists of] comprises the sequence of polypeptide as described in claim 1.

7. (Amended) Polypeptide according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein it has a theoretical isoelectric point between 1 and 6[, particularly between 3 and 5].

8. (Amended) Polypeptide according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein it has a theoretical molecular weight of between 13 and 17 kilodaltons (kD)[, particularly between 14 and 16 kilodaltons (kD)].

9. (Amended) Mixture of polypeptide obtained from the proteolysis of polypeptide as described in [claims 1 to 8] claim 1.

Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated April 16, 2002

Marked-up Claims 1, 3-21, 24, 25 and 29-32

10. (Amended) Polypeptide according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein in its primary sequence, it has at least on calcium-fixing site.

11. (Amended) Polypeptide according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein it fixes calcium.

12. (Amended) Composition [wherein it comprises] comprising in a physiologically acceptable medium an effective amount of at least one polypeptide as defined in [any of claims 1 to 11] claim 1.

13. (Amended) Composition intended to regulate the impairments of epidermal, normal or pathological proliferation or differentiation, [wherein it comprises] comprising, in a cosmetically acceptable medium, an effective amount of at least one polypeptide as defined in [any of claims 1 to 11] claim 1.

14. (Amended) Composition for treating dry skin, hyperkeratosis, parakeratosis, psoriasis, ichthyoses, or neoplasias, [wherein] comprising in a physiologically acceptable medium, [it comprises] an effective amount of at least one polypeptide as defined in [any of claims 1 to 11] claim 1.

Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated April 16, 2002

Marked-up Claims 1, 3-21, 24, 25 and 29-32

15. (Amended) Composition according to [any of claims 12 to 14] claim 12, [wherein it] which is intended for [a] cosmetic or pharmaceutical application.

16. (Amended) [Use of at least one polypeptide as defined in any of claims 1 to 11, in a composition or for the preparation of a composition, whereby the polypeptide or the composition is intended to treat] A method for the treatment of dry skin, hyperkeratosis, parakeratosis, psoriasis, ichthyoses, or neoplasias, comprising administering an effective amount of at least one polypeptide according to claim 1 to a patient in need of such treatment.

17. (Amended) [Use of at least one polypeptide as defined in any of claims 1 to 11, in a composition or for the preparation of a composition, whereby the polypeptide or the composition is intended to regulate the] A method for regulating transglutaminases comprising administering an effective amount of at least one polypeptide according to claim 1 to a patient in need of such regulation.

18. (Amended) [Use of a least one polypeptide as defined in any of claims 1 to 11, in a composition or for the preparation of a composition, whereby] The method according to claim 17, wherein the polypeptide or the composition is intended to regulate transglutaminase 3.

Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated April 16, 2002

Marked-up Claims 1, 3-21, 24, 25 and 29-32

19. (Amended) [Use of at least one polypeptide as defined in any of claims 1 to 11, in a composition or for the preparation of a composition, whereby] The composition according to claim 12, wherein the polypeptide or the composition is intended to regulate the formation of the corneal layer of the epidermis.

20. (Amended) [Process of cosmetic treatment] A method for treating dry skin, hyperkeratosis, parakeratosis, psoriasis, ichthyoses, neoplasias, wherein a cosmetic composition as described in [claims 12 to 15] claim 12 is applied on the skin of the subject to be treated.

21. (Amended) Isolated deoxyribonucleic acid fragment that codes for the polypeptide as defined in [one of claims 1 to 11] claim 1.

24. (Amended) Cosmetic or pharmaceutical composition, wherein it comprises, in a physiologically acceptable medium, at least one nucleotide sequence as described in [any of claims 22 or 23] claim 22.

25. (Amended) [Use of at least one deoxyribonucleic acid sequence as described in any of claims 22 or 23 for preparing a] A polypeptide or a mixture of polypeptides comprising at least one deoxyribonucleic acid sequence as described in claim 22.

Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated April 16, 2002

Marked-up Claims 1, 3-21, 24, 25 and 29-32

29. (Amended) [Use of at least one deoxyribonucleic acid sequence as described in any of claims 22 or 23] A method for preparing a ribonucleic acid comprising using at least one deoxyribonucleic acid sequence as described in claim 22.

30. (Amended) [Use of at least one isolated polypeptide or at least one of its proteolysis fragments or any synthetic peptide as described in claims 1 to 11] A method for preparing or purifying any molecule that can be bound specifically to [said] at least one isolated purified polypeptide as described in claim 1 or to [said] purified proteolysis fragments of said polypeptide or to [said] a synthetic peptide of said polypeptide.

31. (Amended) [Use of at least one isolated polypeptide or at least one of its proteolysis fragments or any synthetic peptide as described in claims 1 to 11] A method for preparing or purifying antiserums or specific monoclonal antibodies comprising using at least one isolated polypeptide or at least one of its proteolysis fragments or any synthetic peptide as described in claim 1.

32. (Amended) Polyclonal or monoclonal antibodies, wherein said antibody recognizes specifically the polypeptide as described in [claims 1 to 11] claim 1.